

National Guard at Emporia, KS. He was ordered to Active Duty on December 23, 1940, with the 60th Field Artillery Brigade, 35th Infantry Division and was commissioned a second lieutenant of the Field Artillery at Fort Sill, OK, on October 1, 1941. General Kennedy was promoted to captain in December 1942 and served in the European Theater of Operations. He was released from Active Duty in January of 1946 and assigned to the Officer's Reserve Corps. In October of 1946, he was promoted to major in the Kansas National Guard and rose steadily in rank to brigadier general. In May of 1968, General Kennedy returned to Active Duty during the Pueblo Crisis. In 1968, he became the commanding officer of the 69th Infantry Brigade, 5th Infantry Division at Fort Carson, CO, until his release from Active Duty on December 12, 1969. During his distinguished military career, General Kennedy received numerous awards and honors, including his 1974 induction into the Artillery OCS Hall of Fame located at Fort Sill. He has remained active in veterans' issues and fundraising for veterans memorials.

From 1977 to 1984, Kennedy served as the director of Alcoholic Beverage Control for the Kansas Department of Revenue. He also served as president of the National Conference of State Liquor Administrators. His remarkable military and public service was recognized by the Washburn University with its Distinguished Service Award.

For more than 30 years, General Kennedy has been an active member in Topeka Fellowship and served as the program chair for the Kansas Prayer Breakfast. He worked diligently with Dr. Roy Brownng, Vernon Jarboe, Clayton McMurray, and many volunteers to make this inspirational event, which promotes prayer for our national, State, and local leaders, possible. The dedication and volunteerism demonstrated by BG Tom Kennedy serves as an example for the generations to come.●

#### CONGRATULATING THE INSTITUTE OF REAL ESTATE MANAGEMENT

● Mr. BUNNING. Mr. President, today I wish to congratulate the Institute of Real Estate Management, IREM, on its 75th anniversary. As an affiliate of the National Association of Realtors, IREM advocates on behalf of the real estate management industry. With 80 U.S. chapters, eight international chapters, and several partnerships around the globe, IREM constantly strives to promote the principles of professional real estate management.

Ethics are the cornerstone of the IREM mission. The IREM Code of Professional Ethics seeks to defend the public interest, promote healthy competition, and guarantee that IREM members will act ethically. Actively and strictly enforced, the Code of Professional Ethics provides a foundation for public trust in the integrity and ex-

pertise of professional real estate managers. IREM's commitment to ethics underlies its 75 years of success as a professional association.

I would also like to congratulate IREM Kentucky chapter 59, which will be celebrating its 40th anniversary on November 10, 2008. Kentucky chapter 59 is the largest IREM chapter in the Commonwealth of Kentucky and serves as an excellent resource on real estate management education and information for its members.

I congratulate IREM on more than seven decades of dedication to the real estate management profession. By providing dedicated service to its members, as well as maintaining high standards for the real estate industry as a whole, IREM serves as an exemplary model of a professional association.●

#### TRIBUTE TO REV. CAESAR ARTHUR WALTER CLARK, SR.

● Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, today I honor the life of a highly respected and gifted Baptist pastor, Caesar Arthur Walter Clark, Sr. Born on December 13, 1914, in Shreveport, LA, Reverend Clark spent his life devoted to the teaching of his faith, blessing many around the State and Nation by his work. He died Sunday, July 27, 2008, at age 93 in Dallas, where he spent more than five decades preaching at Good Street Baptist Church.

Reverend Clark showed his passion for preaching throughout his life, starting as a 19-year-old pastor of the Israelite Baptist Church in Longstreet, LA, where his fiery sermons earned him the nickname "Little Caesar." After joining Good Street Baptist Church in 1950, Reverend Clark helped build the church into a 5,000 member congregation. It was through his work with the local NAACP chapter that Reverend Clark met Reverend Martin Luther King, Jr., and invited him to give a speech hosted by Good Street Baptist.

Reverend Clark cared as much about the presentation of his sermons as the presentation of his actions. He sought to live what he preached to the best of his ability, becoming a mentor to many. As a result, Reverend Clark's sphere of influence extended far beyond the pulpit. For example, he worked to improve the lives of his parishioners and members of the community by opening daycare centers, a credit union, a legal clinic, and low-income housing. In addition, he served as vice president of the National Baptist Convention and as president of the Missionary Baptist Association of Texas. Reverend Clark's service touched many lives; in particular, Reverend R.E. Price, pastor at Mt. Zion Baptist Church in Dallas. Reverend Price said, "Dr. Clark was a man of great integrity and a speaker for all occasions. It was a privilege to serve with him in various leadership roles as his advice was always sage. Most of all, he was my friend."●

Reverend Clark's accomplishments as a pastor and civic leader have earned him the respect and admiration of many. He leaves a legacy of good works, a mighty faith, and a purpose-filled life. I join with his family and friends in celebrating Reverend Clark for his long life of service to God and community.●

#### TRIBUTE TO ROGER STONE

● Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, when the Texas A&M sailboat Cynthia Woods capsized off the coast of Texas, Safety Officer Roger Stone was trapped below deck with two other men. It was a frightening event, which would have put anyone into a panic. But Stone, thinking of his crewmates before himself, pushed Steven Guy and Travis Wright out of the upturned sinking boat's cabin, saving their lives. He did not have time to escape. Roger Stone was a heroic Aggie.

The remaining crew was rescued by the U.S. Coast Guard 26 hours later. Only after Steven Guy and Travis Wright retold the story did Roger Stone's family find out what happened. While the pain of losing a loved one is tremendous, the Stone family should find some comfort in Roger's courageous and selfless acts. His brave sacrifice is a lasting testament to his great character and personal strength.

Roger was originally from London, England, but came to Texas to work at the University of Texas Medical Branch in Galveston. He had been sailing his entire life. Roger and his wife Linda were engaged on a sailboat and were married in the port—Veracruz—that the Cynthia Woods was bound for. Throughout Roger's career he was always serving others, from teaching younger sailors to helping competitors. In addition to his wife Linda Stone, Roger was survived by his daughter Elizabeth Stone, son Eric Stone, mother Doris Stone, and sister Valerie Stone.

These heroic actions are something we all can admire. At the age of 53 Roger gave his life to save the lives of others. This ultimate sacrifice is embodied in chapter 15, verse 13 of the Book of John, "Greater love has no one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends." This courageous deed leaves a lasting legacy for his wife and his children.

While Roger's friends and family will mourn his loss, the people of Texas will honor with solemn pride his heroism. I join today in commending his courage, and honoring his sacrifice.●

#### ALBURNETT COMMUNITY EDUCATION

● Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, in Iowa and across the United States, a new school year has begun. As you know, Iowa public schools have an excellent reputation nationwide, and Iowa students' test scores are among the highest in the Nation.

I would like to take just a few minutes today to salute the dedicated teachers, administrators, and school board members in the Alburnett Community School District, and to report on their participation in a unique Federal partnership to repair and modernize school facilities.

This fall marks the 10th year of the Iowa Demonstration Construction Grant Program. That is its formal name, but it is better known among educators in Iowa as the program of Harkin grants for Iowa public schools. Since 1998, I have been fortunate to secure a total of \$121 million for the State government in Iowa, which selects worthy school districts to receive these grants for a range of renovation and repair efforts—everything from updating fire safety systems to building new schools or renovating existing facilities. In many cases, this Federal funding is used to leverage public and/or private local funding, so it often has a tremendous multiplier effect in a local school district.

The Alburnett Community School District received a 2005 Harkin grant totaling \$500,000 which it is using to help expand and renovate the high school facility. Although parts of the construction project are still under way, this school will be a modern, state-of-the-art facility that befits the educational ambitions and excellence of this school district. Indeed, this is the kind of school that every child in America deserves. The district also received a fire safety grant in 2002 totaling \$50,000 which was used to construct a fire wall and repair existing exit signs.

Excellent schools do not just pop up like mushrooms after a rain. They are the product of vision, leadership, persistence, and a tremendous amount of collaboration among local officials and concerned citizens. I salute the entire staff, administration, and governance in the Alburnett Community School District. In particular, I would like to recognize the leadership of the board of education—president Barry Woodson, Mike Olinger, Dee Luedtke, Cindy Francois, David Kirk and Rhonda Lange, and former board president Duane Bolton and vice president Cregg Smith. I would also like to recognize the leadership of superintendent Mike Harrold and former superintendent Angel Melendez.

As we mark the 10th anniversary of the Harkin school grant program in Iowa, I am obliged to point out that many thousands of school buildings and facilities across the United States are in dire need of renovation or replacement. In my State of Iowa alone, according to a recent study, some 79 percent of public schools need to be upgraded or repaired. The harsh reality is that the average age of school buildings in the United States is nearly 50 years.

Too often, our children visit ultra-modern shopping malls and gleaming sports arenas on weekends, but during

the week go to school in rundown or antiquated facilities. This sends exactly the wrong message to our young people about our priorities. We have to do better.

That is why I am deeply grateful to the professionals and parents in the Alburnett Community School District. There is no question that a quality public education for every child is a top priority in that community. I salute them, and wish them a very successful new school year.●

#### BEDFORD COMMUNITY EDUCATION

● Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, in Iowa and across the United States, a new school year has begun. As you know, Iowa public schools have an excellent reputation nationwide, and Iowa students' test scores are among the highest in the Nation.

I would like to take just a few minutes today to salute the dedicated teachers, administrators, and school board members in the Bedford Community School District, and to report on their participation in a unique Federal partnership to repair and modernize school facilities.

This fall marks the 10th year of the Iowa Demonstration Construction Grant Program. That is its formal name, but it is better known among educators in Iowa as the program of Harkin grants for Iowa public schools. Since 1998, I have been fortunate to secure a total of \$121 million for the State government in Iowa, which selects worthy school districts to receive these grants for a range of renovation and repair efforts—everything from updating fire safety systems to building new schools or renovating existing facilities. In many cases, this Federal funding is used to leverage public and/or private local funding, so it often has a tremendous multiplier effect in a local school district.

The Bedford Community School District received several Harkin fire safety grants totaling \$174,000 which it used to improve fire safety systems and included such things as emergency lighting and exit doors, new wiring and other electrical improvements, heat detectors, and sprinkler systems. The auditorium which was built in 1926 was renovated and the grant was used to update the wiring, install heat detectors and replace exit doors. The district had been cited by the State Fire Marshall for severe deficiencies in fire safety. The Federal grants have made it possible for the district to provide quality and safe schools for their students.

Excellent schools do not just pop up like mushrooms after a rain. They are the product of vision, leadership, persistence, and a tremendous amount of collaboration among local officials and concerned citizens. I salute superintendent Joe Drake and the entire staff, administration, and governance in the Bedford Community School District. In particular, I'd like to recog-

nize the leadership of the board of education—president Tony Brown, Layne Thornton, Mike Irvin, Ed Hensley, Jack Spencer and Rodger Ritchie. District staff who were helpful in the grant application and implementation process were business manager Sharon Hart, grant writer Paul Boysen, and buildings and grounds supervisor Dan Walston.

As we mark the 10th anniversary of the Harkin school grant program in Iowa, I am obliged to point out that many thousands of school buildings and facilities across the United States are in dire need of renovation or replacement. In my State of Iowa alone, according to a recent study, some 79 percent of public schools need to be upgraded or repaired. The harsh reality is that the average age of school buildings in the United States is nearly 50 years.

Too often, our children visit ultra-modern shopping malls and gleaming sports arenas on weekends, but during the week go to school in rundown or antiquated facilities. This sends exactly the wrong message to our young people about our priorities. We have to do better.

That is why I am deeply grateful to the professionals and parents in the Bedford Community School District. There is no question that a quality public education for every child is a top priority in that community. I salute them, and wish them a very successful new school year.●

#### BELMOND-KLEMME COMMUNITY EDUCATION

● Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, in Iowa and across the United States, a new school year has begun. As you know, Iowa public schools have an excellent reputation nationwide, and Iowa students' test scores are among the highest in the Nation.

I would like to take just a few minutes today to salute the dedicated teachers, administrators, and school board members in the Belmont-Klemme Community School District, and to report on their participation in a unique Federal partnership to repair and modernize school facilities.

This fall marks the 10th year of the Iowa Demonstration Construction Grant Program. That is its formal name, but it is better known among educators in Iowa as the program of Harkin grants for Iowa public schools. Since 1998, I have been fortunate to secure a total of \$121 million for the State government in Iowa, which selects worthy school districts to receive these grants for a range of renovation and repair efforts—everything from updating fire safety systems to building new schools or renovating existing facilities. In many cases, this Federal funding is used to leverage public and/or private local funding, so it often has a tremendous multiplier effect in a local school district.

The Belmont-Klemme Community School District received a 2005 Harkin